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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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10/507,189

09/09/2004

Jerzy Janczak

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04/18/2006

PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS

P.O. BOX 3001

BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510

EXAMINER

TRAN, THUY V

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2821

DATE MAILED: 04/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

H.D

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/507,189 | Applicant(s) JANCZAK ET AL. | |
| | Examiner Thuy V. Tran | Art Unit 2821 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on amendment filed 12/20/05 & resp. 1/27/06.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 10, 11 and 13-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 10, 11 and 13 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 14 and 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 15-17, 19 and 20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 September 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This is a response to the Applicants' amendment submitted on December 20, 2005 and response to notice of non-compliant amendment submitted on January 27, 2006. In virtue of this amendment:

- Claims 8-9 and 12 are canceled;
- Claims 14-20 are newly added; and thus,
- Claims 1-7, 10-11, and 13-20 are now presented in the instant application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

*A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.*

2. Claims 14 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Young (U.S. Patent No. 4,414,489).

With respect to claim 14, Young discloses, in Figs. 3-5 and 11, a lamp [35] comprising (1) a module [28]; (2) a plug [33] inherently releasably coupling the module to a voltage source (for electrically connection; see col. 5, lines 21-49); (3) a socket [32] for releasably coupling the module [28] to the lamp (via contact pins [41, 42]; see Fig. 3); and (4) at least one electric component (which is any component included in [28e] shown in Fig. 11) electrically connected to the plug [33] and the socket [32] (via contact pins [41, 42] and connecting wires therein; see Fig. 3).

With respect to claim 18, Young discloses, in Figs. 3-5 and 11, a module [28] connectable to a lamp [24] comprising (1) a plug [33] inherently releasably coupling the module

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[28] to a voltage source (for electrically connection; see col. 5, lines 21-49); (2) a socket [32] for releasably coupling the module [28] to the lamp (via contact pins [41, 42]; see Fig. 3); and (3) at least one electric component (which is any component included in [28e] shown in Fig. 11) electrically connected to the plug [33] and the socket [32] (via contact pins [41, 42] and connecting wires therein; see Fig. 3).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-7, 10-11, and 13 are allowed.
4. Claims 15-17 and 19-20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Prior art fails to disclose or fairly suggest:

- An electric circuit for igniting a discharge lamp comprising a module comprising a plug for releasable coupling of the component module to the first condenser, a socket for releasable coupling of the component module to the discharge lamp, and at least one electric component electrically connected to the plug and the socket, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as called for in independent claim 1 (claims 2-7, 10-11, and 13 are allowed since they are dependent on claim 1);
- A lamp wherein said at least one electric component includes an inductor, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as called for in claim 15;

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- A lamp wherein said at least one electric component includes a parallel connection of an inductor and a capacitor, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as called for in claim 16;
- A lamp further comprising an ignition circuit and an inductor connected in parallel to said voltage source, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as called for in claim 17;
- A module wherein said at least one electric component includes an inductor, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as called for in claim 19; and
- A module wherein said at least one electric component includes a parallel connection of an inductor and a capacitor, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as called for in claim 20.

Remarks and conclusion

6. Applicants' comments on the newly added claims 14-20 with respect to the dependent claim 9 (which is now canceled) filed on 01/27/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The limitations claimed therein are not similar to those claimed in claim 9.

Specifically, independent claims 14 and 18 recite a plug for releasably coupling the module to a voltage source while claim 9 recites a plug for releasably coupling of the module to the first condenser. Therefore, claims 1-7, 10-11, and 13 are now allowed while the newly added claims 14 and 18 are being rejected as being anticipated by a newly discovered reference to Young.

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy V. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-1828. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00 AM -4:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy P. Callahan can be reached on (571) 272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

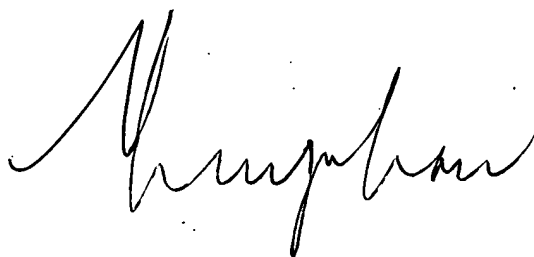
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thuy V. Tran', written in a cursive style.

THUY V. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER